



Barcroft News

November 2010

Vol 108, Issue 3

BSCL President's Report

From Bryant Monroe

The October BSCL meeting featured a very informative visit from candidates on the November 2 ballot for County Board and the School Board. Thanks to the candidates and their supporters for joining us. Current Board Member Christopher Zimmerman was unable to make it due to a Regional Transportation Authority meeting (he's member representing Arlington), but offered a future visit with the BSCL at our convenience.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 2! A very helpful sample ballot is on the County's website at www.arlingtonva.us/departments/voterregistration.

The forum included comments on the Columbia Pike Streetcar proposal, and it seems that many Barcrofters have an interest in this initiative. METRO is currently working on the streetcar's "Federal Alternatives Analysis and Environmental Assessment" in accordance with Federal guidelines. This process will have two meetings in November that offer a great opportunity to catch up on the streetcar's design choices and benefits for our community. The public meetings will be held on Monday, November 15 (Goodwin House) and Thursday



November 18 (Walter Reed Community Center). Both meetings start at 7:00 PM, for further information contact them at www.piketranst.com.

We also heard great news from **Chris Ditta**, our amazing BSCL fund raiser, who shared that we have raised over \$10,000 so far! This is a fantastic effort, and we will continue this work to reach our goal of \$40,000 to renovate the Barcroft Community House, our gift to this great neighborhood. Thanks Chris!!!

Please make an effort to join us at the **November 4 BSCL meeting** and welcome our special guest Barcroft Elementary School Principal **Miriam Hughey-Guy**. She will share the many recent achievements by teachers, staff and students, and will ask our help in working with difficult parking and traffic issues near the school. Our BSCL Traffic Committee Chairperson **Heidi Wicker** will also join in to explore ways to deal with the school's concerns, and the concerns of many neighbors with the growth of the National Guard Bureau and the State Department on George Mason Drive. This should be a busy evening.

The meeting starts at 7:30 PM. I look forward to seeing you there!

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News Deadline: 15th day of the month preceding the issue month.

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 Mike Behringer, Pat Williamson

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Parking Committee David Peacefull
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vacant

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Arlington County Civic Federation
Delegates Eric Harold, Randy Swart,
 Pat Williamson, Jim Kerr
Alternates Karen Darner, David Michelson,
 Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.bscl.org

Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

FOR SALE: Two pairs new (in the box) pine wood exterior shutters. Manufacturer Exterior Solutions. 21" x 43" Retail \$350 Asking \$250 or BO. Call Rosemary 703 521 0424

FOR SALE: Hot tub cover, 81' X 81', brown, excellent condition. \$99. Call Dave Peacefull 979-8287.

Mother's Helper —6th grader would love to do any odd jobs you can think of! Rebecca Bean 703-553-4093 bec-cab50@gmail.com

Mother's Helper and Pet Sitter - 6th grader, (includes: taking out trash and watering plants) Call Tyler LaPointe at 703-979-1083 or 703-585-8507

Vacation-related help—Responsible teen can water plants, bring in the paper and mail, care for pets, mow lawn, handle trash cans, etc. Dylan Vega 703-271-5987 dylanrvega@gmail.com

Alexandra's Babysitting - teen available week nights and weekends. Alexandra @ 703-892-6712

Babysitter - 11th grader available after school and weekends. Please call Jenna at 703-685-1071

Teenage Babysitter - Week nights and weekends: Sarah @ 703-521-8756

Babysitter: Red Cross certified 10th grader available. Call Abby at 703-892-1090

Babysitter --6th grader , Red Cross certified. Jenny Claire 703-998-5338

Rebekah's Pet Care (walking, feeding, sitting) 703-521-8756.

Yard Work: Teen available for mowing, raking and other yard work. Call Thomas at 703-979-5838

Babysitter: 16 year old for evenings and weekends. Call Allison 703-979-5838

Ongoing Need: Baby items, books, educational toys, household items etc for the Even Start Program at Barcroft School. Call Jenny Lindenauer at 703-228-8846 or email: jennifer_lindenauer@apsva.us

Barcroft Community Playgroup 9:30-11:30am Friday mornings at the Community House. Contact **Jenny Ditta** chrisnjenny4@comcast.net or **Jason Kiker** jkiker@gmail.com, or just stop by!

Around the Neighborhood

Congratulations to Ana Cackley, one of two Arlington high school seniors to be recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP). Ana attends H-B Woodlawn.

A College Board program, NHRP provides national recognition of exceptional academic achievements of Hispanic high school seniors. The program identifies academically outstanding Hispanic high school students based on their PSAT/NMSQT test scores and grade point averages.

Buchanan/Pike Bus Stop Could Be Closed Until Fall 2012

By Mark Wigfield

As anyone who uses the 16 bus knows, the stops on Columbia Pike at S. Buchanan St. were closed and relocated to the west due to construction on Columbia Pike. County officials are now saying the Buchanan Street stops may not reopen until fall of 2012.

Completion of utility undergrounding is scheduled to be completed in May/June 2011. Then, the street improvement project begins in Fall 2011. The contractors have a year to complete the work.

The end result will be a vastly improved intersection, including a realignment of S. Buchanan and Four Mile Run minor, and new curbs, gutters, walks, storm drains, etc. But it will mean longer walks for riders of the 16 bus for some time. The county may be able to make some accommodations – perhaps temporary reopening of stops on one side of the street if all work is on the other, for example or even

more -- but lacking need from the neighborhood, probably will not.

If the relocation is causing undue hardship, please post a message on bsclchat@yahoo.com. Sign up for chat on the Barcroft web site at www.bscl.org/chatlist.htm.

An unexpected benefit: the W&OD is now an option to get to the new eastbound stop, which is across the 4 Mile Run bridge. That's a peaceful and scenic walk – though it is the longest way.

Note: transit experts say people are willing to walk about ¼ mile to ½ mile to transit. Some say people should only be asked to walk 1,000 feet. The walk from Barcroft School to the closest 16 stop (Thomas St) is now 0.47 mile, up from 0.4 mile at S. Buchanan. The school was very unhappy when the Wakefield stop closed (.31 mile).

Barcroft Eco-House

Barcroft is going to be the home of the Washington area's second passive house, an ultra energy efficient building. There are only about 20 passive houses in the USA. It will be built at 4616 S. 8th Street where, on Oct. 19, a condemned home served as a spectacular made-for-TV controlled burn exercise. The fire will be shown on the "CBS Early Show." Construction is expected to begin on the new eco-house around December 1 and wrap up in the spring.



"Donate To Renovate" Campaign Update

Community House Renovation Campaign Adds 100 Families; Up to \$12,657

By Chris Ditta

Thanks to you, the Barcroft Community House Renovation Fund has reached the 32% mark toward our \$40,000 goal. 97 families made tax-deductible contributions throughout September and the first two weeks of October. This brings us to 153 families donating since July. Thank you so much for your generosity!

In the next few months, volunteers will be going door-to-door to request your participation in the community fundraiser. Keep an eye out for the **Hot Chocolate Stand** as well on a corner near you!



To recap, the interior of the Barcroft Community House will be renovated to increase energy efficiency and to help the Community House **Go Green**. We will replace the ceiling and walls to increase aesthetic charm and acoustics, and also update electrical and lighting. We still need your help! Any amount you can donate is appreciated. We are averaging over \$80 per household, and if every remaining household donates half that figure, we will easily meet our goal!

PLEASE HELP!

Make Checks Payable to:
Barcroft Community House Fund

Mail Donations to:
BSCL c/o Gary Lefebvre, Treasurer.
812 S. George Mason Drive
Arlington, VA 22204-1555

For Questions or Concerns:
Please contact **Chris Ditta**, Chair of the Community House Renovation Fundraising Committee at (202) 258-1240.

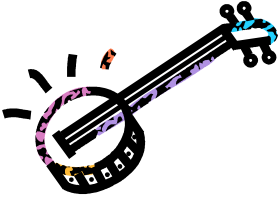
For Fundraiser Details
www.bscl.org/fundraiser.htm

For Complete Renovation History
www.bscl.org/renovate.htm

For Community House Rental
www.bscl.org/bch_rent.htm



EVERYONE IS INVITED



Bluegrass and folk music will be on the program for a benefit concert Saturday, Nov. 20, at the Barcroft Community House. The show, which starts at 7 p.m., is a benefit for AFAC, the Arlington Food Assistance Coalition.

Headlining the program will be Hollertown, a D.C.-based band that plays bluegrass, folk and American roots music. The five-member band has played together for three years and has drawn packed houses at local concerts.

Opening the show will be Barcroft's own, **Kathy Kerr** and Friends, with old-time fiddle music; followed by **Cecilia Cackley** (a former Barcrofter) and **Genna Davidson**, two members of the Josh Drews, a D.C.-based folk-rock band.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Doors open at 6:30. Desserts and liquid refreshments will be available for purchase, with proceeds from refreshment sales going to the Community House Renovation Fund.

Concert patrons are also encouraged to bring a canned good or box of cereal, which will also be donated to AFAC, along with proceeds from ticket sales. AFAC provides groceries every week to 1,200 Arlington families in need.

For more information about the concert, call **Alicia or Phil Cackley** at 703-271-9743.



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Barcroft Elementary

What's Happening in November

Many thanks to all Barcroft neighbors who linked their Harris Teeter VIC cards to the school. The Barcroft PTA has linked 2996 cards and earned \$5200 so far in this year.

Thank you as well for your support of Arlington's **David M. Brown Planetarium**. The Barcroft PTA raised over \$410.00 during its **September, "Save Your Change, Save the Planetarium" fundraiser**, which was sent to the local charity, Friends of the Planetarium. To learn more please visit www.saveplanetarium.org/.

We invite our Barcroft neighbors to our weekly **Monday Mornin' Movers** exercise program. Weather permitting, families and students meet at the outdoor track, and walk and run from 8:30 – 8:50 a.m. each Monday.

The Barcroft PTA is participating in the local candy drive, *Treats 4 Our Troops*. Through Nov. 10, Barcroft families and neighbors can drop off candy, letters, cards, and recycled magazines into a bin at the Office. *Treats 4 Our Troops* will deliver our donated candy to U.S. military personnel who are currently deployed, and to the Wounded Warriors -- injured service men and women and their families currently residing at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC. Money donations are also welcome and will be used to defray delivery and shipping expenses.

On Nov. 2, the Barcroft PTA will host an Election Day Bake Sale. Plan to have breakfast with us, and choose from a selection of home-baked treats all day long!

The Barcroft PTA will host its semi-annual Garden Day, on Sat. Nov. 6, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to help weed, mulch and enjoy a pizza lunch.

Nov. 16, Barcroft will host a Family Academic Night at 6:00 p.m. The Virginia Cooperative Extension of Arlington County will present the Barcroft Kids Marketplace economics program. Each child is assigned a career and monthly income. They go to several stations to choose how much income to allocate to food, clothing, transportation, savings, housing, insurance, charity, and entertainment. To volunteer, email Susan Holland at susan_holland@apsva.us

As part of American Education Week, Barcroft will distribute free books from Reading is Fundamental (RIF) to all students on Nov 18. Funds for RIF are raised by the Local and National RIF organizations and the Barcroft PTA. All students from pre-K through 5th Grade will receive the gift of a book of their choice. If any Barcroft neighbors or parents would like to volunteer that day to stamp books, read, or otherwise help, please contact Dora Sue Black at dorasue_black@apsva.us.

On Friday, Nov.19, the Barcroft PTA will host its monthly Family Fitness Night. Please join us for some great exercise for the whole family.

To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft in November, go to www.apsva.us/15452010312423667/site/default.asp.

Wakefield High School

2 Great Concerts!

The Wakefield Orchestra presents
Salute to America
 A Concert Honoring Our Country
 Wednesday, October 27, 2010
 Wakefield High School Cafeteria
 Dessert reception following.

All donations will benefit WHS
 Orchestra Uniform Fund and a por-
 tion of the proceeds will go to the
 USO.

For information, call 703-228-6682
 Or e mail Gene Pohl at
gene_pohl@apsva.us

The Wakefield "Marching Warriors"
 in Concert Wed. Nov. 10
 in the auditorium at 7:30 pm.

The marching band and color guard
 will do an indoor version of their
 show, Cirque du Soleil.



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An Original Story

Happy Halloween Special

By Franny DeAtley & Olivia Monroe



Halloween night was approaching, and Sarah Lin was dressing in her costume. She wore a pumpkin costume and tied her black hair into a bun. As she slipped on her shoes, she heard a voice.

“Hey! Hey you,” whispered a voice very close to her. “Hey, turn around,” the voice whispered again. Sarah Lin was frightened, and she ran out the door.

“Don’t leave me Sarah Lin!” The whisper, louder now, made Sarah Lin cringe. Sarah Lin looked back again and saw no one, just her pumpkins sitting on the ledge of the porch.

It was then when she saw the light, the light coming from inside the biggest pumpkin. It had a big orange grin on its face. Sarah Lin had not carved that face into the pumpkin, and she screamed and yelled for her mother.

Her mother did not reply and Sarah Lin began to cry, but her pumpkin, the one she had picked herself, was talking to her. So Sarah Lin decided to make friends with her pumpkin and she named him Plumpy the Pumpkin. They were very good friends, but soon Plumpy started to rot. At first Sarah was sad, but then she realized that even when he left, they would still remain best friends.

The End

The story of Plumpy is a story of friendship. If you have a best friend this Halloween let him or her know how much you appreciate and how much you care. Happy Halloween, and have fun trick-or-treating. Remember to be safe and have an adult with you, at all times.

Around the Neighborhood

THANK YOU TO: Barcroft News Contributors

Franny DeAtley, age 11, is a 6th grader at Kenmore. **Olivia Monroe**, age 13, attends HB Woodlawn. Thanks also to **Mark Wigfield** for contributing to this issue and **Carol Harvey** for her many fascinating contributions in the past. Barcrofters of all ages are invited to submit articles and ideas to the Barcroft News!

Barcrofter **Gary Trusty** will be sharing fine wood turned pieces as one of twelve artists at the Dominion Hills Fall Craft Show on Saturday, Nov. 6 10am - 5pm at the Dominion Hills Area Rec Assn, 6000 Wilson Blvd, Arlington

Scouting for Food

On Sat. Nov. 13, Boy Scouts will be picking up non-perishable food items to donate to the Arlington Food Assistance Center(AFAC). AFAC especially needs canned tuna and salmon for 1,200 families it serves each week. Last year, Boy Scouts collected 43,000 pounds of food for AFAC. For info, contact 703-845-8486 or volunteer4afac@afac.org

The Woman’s Club of Arlington Annual Fall Boutique

Sat. Nov 13th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Free Admission

Vendors, Crafts, Used Books, White House Ornaments, Thrift Shop, Silent Auction, Raffle, Bake Sale, Pecans, Cutlery.
Guitar Music.

Snack Bar/lunch 11-2.

700 S. Buchanan St., Arlington
703-553-5800

Unofficial Poll

Regarding the Proposed Streetcars along Columbia Pike

By Kathy Kerr

An impromptu, anonymous poll created by your Barcroft News editor asked the question:

****Are you in favor of the streetcar system that is planned for Columbia Pike?*****

There were 41 responses—17 YES, 18 NO and 6 NOT SURE. There were lots of comments. Here are brief excerpts.

IN FAVOR

- Will help with traffic congestion and promote a more unified Columbia Pike district.
- Will spur development along the Pike
- It will be FUN. People will enjoy it
- Will be easy to ride. No complicated routes like the buses have.
- Will increase property values
- Will attract more riders
- Will enhance traffic flow, bring positive growth and make us unique in Arlington.
- Love the idea!
- Thumbs up from me!
- Enhances the transportation options in the corridor while also attracting more desirable development.
- Coolness factor! Streetcars are just cool.

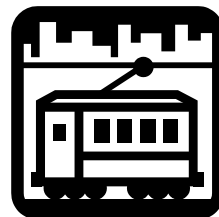
NOT IN FAVOR

- Bus service is adequate on Columbia Pike so street cars are not necessary.
- May make commuting more difficult due to congestion.
- Traffic slowdowns will increase pollution
- With all the streetscaping efforts to eliminate utilities lines along Columbia Pike, now we want to add streetcar power lines?

- Waste of money. It will create gridlock in its construction and once it is finished. We already have an excellent bus system along the pike. Gee whiz it's enough to make me into a Republican.
- A thorough cost analysis has not been done. Should be done by a 3rd party. Seems like incoherent planning
- How to do this without widening the streets?
- Danger for pedestrians who would be in the street
- Why not have more ART buses?
- Streetcar can't be rerouted in case of accidents along the Pike
- Hard to see streetcars coming up behind you. Will streetcars have the right of way?
- Why lose whole lane of traffic for novelty of a streetcar? Buses are already frequent. Dedicated bus lanes would be better investment

NOT SURE

- It's very difficult to project the benefits as the costs are right now but the next generation might asked what the big deal was because it solves many problems
- I'm not sure it will work without widening the streets
- May increase property values but may also increase property taxes
- Why did Arlington voters never get a chance to vote on this? Is it a done deal?
- I don't know enough about it to have an opinion.



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What's Going On In Barcroft??

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www.bscl.org/chatlist.htm



Barcroft School and Civic League
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, VA 22204

Kitchen Cabinet Refacing Tips

The variables that affect the cost of kitchen cabinets relate to quality, appearance, and functional effectiveness.

So, if you're really sprucing them up and using high-end handles, adding more shelving inside them, the costs will rise. But what if the insides of your cabinets aren't really in poor condition? If the hinges and the hardware are still in good shape, just the outside that could use a makeover.

That's when giving your cabinets a new face might be your best option. Stripping the cabinets and painting or refacing them can add a lot of value to the overall appeal of the home without incurring the bigger expense of replacing your cabinets.

Ascertain the material your cabinets are composed of. Certain types of cabinets may have a protective layer (veneer) on top of the wood or pressed particle board. If you remove this layer you can end up with a big mess.

While it often chips off over the years, and appears easy to remove, in fact you can peel it off with your finger tips, removing it completely will require the under material to be sanded and prepped so that the surface will allow paint to stick to it. But, removing it may also cause harm to the cabinets.

There are a few steps involved in refacing: remove/prep the veneer, strip the surface, fill in missing chips, clean cabinets, apply new veneer and trim, prep veneer, and finally stain and finish.

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